

Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship
May 3, 2020 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gi_ZootAsZo

Centering Words

*“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.
I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”*

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT

South African song

“Come, Bring Your Burdens to God”
Led by Virginia Weiss and Seth Ungemach

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Peter called to the people, inviting them into unity and solidarity in Christ

To break bread and worship together

We too hear the call to join the many generations before us

Worshiping a God whose love transcends time and age

Telling the stories of God’s mighty acts in our midst

Let us praise God together, all of us,

Young and old, rich and poor, one people united in abundant life

Let us worship God!

HYMN NO. 401

“Here in This Place”

1Here in this place, the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away.

See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in - the lost and forsaken,
gather us in - the blind and the lame.

Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

3Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth.

Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you.

Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

O Great Shepherd, whose presence was discerned in the history of our spiritual forebears, we come to you, a fearful people who resist the Holy Spirit and shrink from undeserved suffering. We want to trust your promise of abundant life. Speak to us that we may seek, above all else, to do what is pleasing to you. Amen.

A LITANY OF ASSURANCE:

We are healed by Christ’s wounds.

For to this you have been called, that you should follow in Christ’s steps.

We are healed by Christ’s wounds.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to Christ.

We are healed by Christ’s wounds.

The Lord is our shepherd. We lack nothing for we live in Christ’s abundance.

Amen!

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ALLELUIA

Jeannette Sorrell



ANTHEM

Carlos Colón

“Love Shall Overcome”

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

FROM THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

John 10:1-10

¹⁰Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

After the readings

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

“Portrait of Abundant Life”

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

To participate in our online Friendship Register, please leave a comment in the Live Chat box listing the names of those participating in this morning's Live Worship.

OFFERING

[Click here to donate to FHC via PayPal](#)

OFFERTORY

Stephen Paulus

“The Road Home”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God, may our offerings bring to others the promise of new life. Accept the gifts we offer to proclaim your love. Use our talents in ways that will set others free, that the liberating truth of Christ’s gospel be heard, and seen, and felt.

Eucharist

Invitation/Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
in the name of the Lord.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life.
May this meal strengthen us in love, and help us to serve you in each other,
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Going Forth to Live as God’s People

CLOSING HYMN NO. 306

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.
2 Before our *Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

BENEDICTION

PASSING OF THE PEACE



Notes & Announcements

Prayer Requests:

If you would like to request prayers for a personal concern, please send an email to Pastor Lentz (pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org) and Pastor Goines (pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org). The pastors will include them in next week’s congregational prayer.

Prayers are requested this week for: Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Beth and Dave Garrett, the family of Iris Gilbert, Rita Grube, David Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein, the family of Vikki Nowak, Elspeth Peterjohn, Dean Sieck, Harold Thomas, and the family of Lorian Thomas and LeAnn West.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Doris Brandt, Marge Drollinger, Al Gilbert, Florence and Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, and Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

Care Group: The Corinth Care Group will assist our pastors with members’ needs in **May**. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will be passed on to the **Care Group leader, Marjorie (Margie) Ravas**.

Thank you, all office volunteers: Lynda Bernays, Cathy Ghiandoni, Ellen McChesney, and Anne Smith.

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **May 14 at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

To stay up to date on family programming, please subscribe to the Christian Education Newsletter: bit.ly/ceNewsletter.

Giving/donation options- Monetary donations could be made through the [PayPal link on our website](#) (www.fhcpresb.org), by auto bill pay through your bank or by mail:
3031 Monticello Blvd. Cleve. Hts., OH 44118.

Coming Up

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels (Bible Study) discusses next Sunday’s texts on Wednesday mornings (virtually) from 7:30 am to 8:30 am. The lessons for this week are: **Acts 7:55-60; Ps. 31: 1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; and John 14:1-14.**

Please join the Exploring Membership Zoom call on Saturday, May 16 from 9 am-12 pm and Sunday, May 17 from 9 am-10:30 am. Come join, explore, or just learn more about us! Please email churchgrowth@fhcpresb.org on how to join the Zoom call.

Calendar: May 3-10

<p>Sunday, May 3: 9:30 am Children’s Worship (online) 11:00 am Worship (online)</p> <p>Monday, May 4: 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There’s Hope OA Big Book Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday, May 5: 11:00 am Abundance Pantry Registration and Distribution 5:00 pm Bulletin and Weekly Email Deadline HCC Board Meeting (conference call)</p> <p>Wednesday, May 6: 7:30 am Bible and Bagels (online) 12:00 pm Staff Meeting (conference call)</p>	<p>Thursday, May 7:</p> <p>Friday, May 8: 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, May 9:</p> <p>Sunday, May 10: 9:30 am Children’s Worship (online) 11:00 am Worship (online)</p>
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Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-Pastors
Rev. David Wigger, Interim Dir. of Family, Youth & Children’s Ministries
Tara Beverly, Youth Leader
Anne Wilson, Director of Music